

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1-14 have been rejected. Claims 15 to 17 have been added. Claims 1, 3, and 8 have been amended. In view of foregoing amendments and following remarks, the applicants request allowance of the application.

Applicants thank the Office for withdrawing the 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 rejection.

**Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Application No. 2002/0138387 ("Griffin") in view of U.S. Application No. 2005/0131788 ("Verdonick"). For the following reasons, Griffin in view of Verdonick does not disclose all of the features of the present claims.

Claim 1, recites:

An automated method comprising:

- (a) receiving input selecting a time period for which adjustments to accounting records of a joint venture are to be applied, where the time period includes time between a present time and a time of an inception of the venture;
- (b) receiving input selecting one or more types of accounting records to which the adjustments are to be applied, where one type of the accounting records includes accounting records that call for a capital contribution;
- (c) searching a database for accounting records that have a creation date that falls within the selected time period; and
- (d) for each accounting record identified by the search, applying adjustments to the accounting records of the joint venture, including:
  - (i) creating new reversing data records to be added to the existing data records and to be associated with respective existing data records, which when added, reverse associated existing records based on the input received;
  - (ii) creating new updated data records corresponding to records associated with the reversing data records, and based on a new equity share assignment.

The rejection of claim 1 has been rendered moot by the present amendments. Claim 1 is allowable over the presently cited art, as Griffin does not disclose "adjustments to accounting records of a joint venture are to be applied, where the time period includes time between a

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present time and a time of an inception of the venture." The adjustments of Griffin deal only with present transactions. Further, Griffin does not disclose the feature of "creating new reversing data records to be added to the existing data records and to be associated with respective existing data records, which when added, reverse associated existing records based on the input received." This feature is not found anywhere in the cited prior art.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request claim 1 be allowed. Additionally, claim 2, 4, 5, and 17 should be allowed for the same reasons.

Claim 8, recites:

A machine-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions to implement a process comprising:

- (a) receiving input selecting a time period for which adjustments to accounting records of a joint venture are to be applied, where the time period includes time between a present time and a time of an inception of the venture;
- (b) receiving input selecting one or more types of accounting records to which the adjustments are to be applied, where one type of the accounting records includes accounting records that call for a capital contribution;
- (c) searching a database for accounting records that have a creation date that falls within the selected time period; and
- (d) for each accounting record identified by the search, applying adjustments to the accounting records of the joint venture, including:
  - (i) creating new reversing data records to be added to the existing data records and to be associated with respective existing data records, which when added, reverse associated existing records based on the input received;
  - (ii) creating new updated data records corresponding to records associated with the reversing data records, and based on a new equity share assignment.

Griffin in view of Verdonick does not disclose or even suggest this subject matter. Specifically, neither reference discloses "receiving input selecting a time period for which adjustments to accounting records of a joint venture are to be applied, where the time period falls between a present time and a time of an inception of the venture." Further, neither reference discloses "where one type of the accounting records including accounting records that call for a capital contribution." Further, neither reference discloses "creating new reversing data records to be added to existing data records." Thus, claim 8 is also allowable.

Claims 9, 11, and 12 depend from claim 8 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons.

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**Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 3, 6, 7, 10, 13, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Application No. 2002/0138387 ("Griffin"), in view of U.S. Patent Application No. 2007/0179872 ("Macalka"). For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Griffin in view of Macalka does not render the present claims unpatentable.

Claims 3, 6, 7, 10, 13, and 14 depend from one of claims 1 and 8. Since Macalka does not cure the deficiencies argued with respect to claims 1 and 8, the dependent claims should be allowed for at least the same reasons.

**New Claims:**

Claims 15 to 17 were added. Claim 17 depends from claim 4, and should be allowed for at least the same reason. Additionally, neither cited reference discloses the features presented in new claims 15 and 16. For example, neither reference discloses, "creating new data records corresponding to the existing accounting records associated with the new reversing data records."

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**CONCLUSION**

All outstanding rejections have been overcome. It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is in clear condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Office is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-220-4200 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 24, 2009

/John B. Gillick, Jr./

John B. Gillick, Jr.

Registration No. 63,027

Kenyon & Kenyon LLP  
1500 K Street, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005-1257  
Tel.: (202) 220-4200  
Fax.: (202) 220-4201